



Traffic Safety Takes First Place

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For the second year in a row, the Virginia Chiefs of Police have recognized the Roanoke County Police Department's traffic safety program. The Law Enforcement Challenge recognizes the best overall traffic safety program and awards agencies according to number of employees. Agencies are required to submit an entry packet which is reviewed by three judges. Agencies are judged on their efforts to enforce laws, educate the public about occupant protection, impaired driving and speeding.

The Roanoke County Police Department was awarded first place in municipal agencies with 76-125 officers. The Department was recognized for its innovative programs such as "Why Math Matters" and "Partnering for the Privilege." "Why Math Matters" was developed to provide traffic safety presentations in math, physics and drivers education classes. "Partnering for the Privilege" was presented in each of the high schools to reach both parents and teens with the traffic safety message. The "Daily Watch" program is an important part of the holistic approach to traffic safety in Roanoke County. This program targets secondary roads by scheduling daily radar enforcement and setting up checkpoints. The traffic unit has made several presentations up and down the east coast, highlighting these programs and the success that the Department has had with them.



The Traffic Unit partnered up with the Blue Ridge Transportation Safety Board to have the first Traffic Safety Day at Valley View Mall On September 30, 2006.



Chief Lavinder and Lt. Mike Warner accept the First Place Award for the Law Enforcement Challenge from the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police

For its efforts in 2005 and 2006, the Department was presented several awards during 2006, to include:

- 🏆 First Place in the Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge
- 🏆 Governor's Transportation Safety Award—Impaired Driving
- 🏆 Governor's Transportation Safety Award—Youth Traffic Safety
- 🏆 Blue Ridge Transportation Safety Board Award—Innovative Traffic Safety Award
- 🏆 Blue Ridge Transportation Safety Board Award—Outstanding Transportation Safety Group
- 🏆 Blue Ridge Transportation Safety Board Award—Outstanding Community Leadership Award
- 🏆 YOVASO Traffic Safety Award—Impaired Driving
- 🏆 YOVASO Traffic Safety Award—Law Enforcement Officer of the Year